

## MRS. JAMES E. NEELY

One of Grinnell's Useful Women Laid  
to Rest Today in Hazelwood  
Cemetery. 9-3-1921

HAD BEEN ACTIVE  
IN ALL USEFUL WAYS

Sincerely Mourned by Large Circle of  
Friends Who Admired and  
Loved Her.

Many Grinnell hearts are bowed in sorrow today as they mourn the death of a dearly loved woman whose burial occurs today in Hazelwood. Over a half century of active and useful life has given the deceased woman, Mrs. J. E. Neely, a wide circle of friends to whom she has become dearer as years passed by, and sympathy for her sorrowing family is deep, sincere and lasting.

Only a few weeks ago Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Neely went to Perry, Ohio, to visit at the H. J. Champion home, and to lend loving cheer to Mr. Champion who for some time has been in poor health. They had completed their visit and were preparing to come home when a bad fall, breaking the thigh bone and crushing it upward into the body, made her bedfast. A slight cough had been troubling her, which soon developed into pneumonia, and for a few days she hovered between life and death, all hoping earnestly for her recovery. The strain, however, was too much for her weakened frame and Saturday, Sept. 3, at two o'clock in the afternoon, she fell asleep.

The body was brought to Grinnell, reaching here Monday morning, accompanied by her husband and by Mr. and Mrs. T. B. West, Mrs. West being a niece of the deceased lady. Walter Neely was also a member of the party as he had gone to Perry in response to notice of his mother's dangerous illness.

Lydia A. Wire was born September 7, 1848, and had she lived four days longer would have reached her seventy-third birthday. She was born in Yates county, New York, but when a young girl, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Truman C. Wire, moved to Ohio. Here she later met and married J. E. Neely, a native of Herkimer county, New York. Their marriage occurred December 22, 1869, and less than two years ago in their beautiful new home on East street they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, a day fragrant with the memory of long years of happy married life and the congratulations and good wishes of their constantly increasing large circle of friends.

In 1870 Mr. Neely came to Grinnell and in 1871 he and Mrs. Neely came to this place and occupied the farm which till 1894 was to be their home, after which they moved to Grinnell.

Mrs. Neely was more than an active woman. Mr. Neely was one of the charter members of Hermon lodge, and has always since been an enthusiastic brother. Mrs. Neely became a member of the Eastern Star and was long one of its most useful members, and ably filled its positions of honor, and was Past Worthy Matron.

She has all her life been an earnest and faithful member of the Methodist church exemplifying in her daily life its most sacred teachings of duty to Christ and her fellow human being. Mrs. Neely was also an active member of the Read and Reflect club, at her death its youngest member—and of the Sunset club—its oldest member. She was also an active member of the Ladies Cemetery association, and gave much time to its duties.

The funeral occurred today at the home on East street, conducted by her pastor, Rev. W. C. Wasser, assisted by Rev. E. W. Cross.

Music was by a quartet composed of Mrs. D. H. Snook, Mrs. F. S. Edge, H. J. Askey and H. S. Lowrey who sang two songs, "Abide With Me" and "Thy Will Be Done." Bearers were: G. B. Critchett, H. B. Brock, E. W. Bortell, D. M. Cox, F. S. Edge, and A. M. Burton.

Floral offerings were beautiful and numerous.

Mrs. Neely leaves to mourn her departure, her husband, a brother, Harry Wire of Long Beach, Calif., and her two sons, W. J. Neely of Grinnell and E. M. Neely, now of Long Beach. The old time friends all remember the great sorrow that befell her in 1894 in the death close together of her twin daughters, barely yet in their teens.